

WASHINGTON.

A STRIKE AMONG THE MANY USELESS CONGRESSIONAL CLERKS.

West Virginia at the Capitol--Mr. Goode's Case--Failure to Down the Stenographer.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, April 23.--The bills that are in process of germination in the Appropriations Committee room promise to create consternation among those who reach maturity and are sent to the House. Particularly so the bill for the case with the legislative, executive, and judicial bill. It will be remembered that early in the session, when Doorkeeper Donaldson began parading out his patronage to the members of the House, several backwoods statesmen failed to secure places for the men they had set their hearts on having on the payroll as nominal clerks, but as real private secretaries, and as "frankers" with a "seed-director." These men kicked, so to speak, and at their instigation the House resolved its Committee on Accounts into a body of snuffers after corruption, and gave them all the powers for a keen scent. They created a stir at the start. Several newspaper correspondents carried on the rolls assigned, and then as the public is concerned, the matter rested. It now develops that the investigators have discovered immense opportunities for reform and retrenchment. They have learned officially what they individually knew before, that nearly if not quite half the employees of the House are useless so far as the House is concerned, but extremely useful to the members who secure their appointment, and for whom they labor and are heavily laden the major part of their time. The Committee on Accounts has as yet made no report, but it has leaked out from the Appropriations Committee that the result of the findings have been communicated to Mr. Randall's committee, and that the new appropriation is being made up on the basis of a very large reduction of the Doorkeeper's force and a slight increase in that of the Clerk, General Clerk. Thus two document-rooms have been in operation, one for the House and one for the officers, each with a full complement of superintendents, clerks, and laborers. The duties are identical, and either one might perform the functions of both with the aid of a laborer or two, thus clipping out superintendents, clerks, and other high-priced congressional favorites. The new appropriation is being made up on the basis of a very large reduction of the Doorkeeper's force and a slight increase in that of the Clerk, General Clerk.

Mr. Wayne Ferguson, of West Virginia, has received an appointment as special timber-agent of the United States Land-Office, and departed last night for Walla Walla, Washington Territory.

Among the prominent West Virginians at the Capitol to-day are John Russell, of Clarksville, said to have congressional aspirations; Judge James Morrow, of Fairmont; Judge John Jackson, of the United States Court, Parkersburg; James H. Ferguson, of the United States Court, Parkersburg; Isaac Johnson, of the Ohio railroad; Isaac Johnson, of the Parkersburg Free Press, and B. L. Butcher, ex-Superintendent of Free Schools.

The case of Solicitor Goode was again considered by the Senate Judiciary Committee in secret session yesterday. Among those that testified against confirmation were Major Valden of New Kent county, Mr. Selzer of South Hampton, and Captain Lassiter of Norfolk, a conductor on the Norfolk and Western railroad. The testimony is claimed by the followers of Senator Mahone to have been very damaging. They do not, however, anticipate that a case has been made out sufficiently strong to induce the committee to make an adverse report to the Senate, but centre their hopes on the partisan spirit of that body to set aside the committee's findings and reject the nomination. Even this result they have little hopes of securing.

The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Robert E. Withers, of Virginia, as Consul at Hong Kong.

The Rev. J. J. Lafferty, of Richmond, is in the city on business. He is paired on Monday's election with the assistant postmaster of the House, who would vote "ye," while Mr. Lafferty would vote "nay."

Hon. Lewis Hanback, of Kansas, is one of the most vindictive partisans in the House. The appointment of a southern man to office, unless he chance to be a Republican, is little less than high treason in his estimation, and he has in his speech, and in his manner, and as a picture and his wretched looks. He forestalled a speech before the committee investigating the Pan-Electric matter with a statement to his Republican friends that he would down the stenographer, who is a southern man, if within the realms of the possible. Mr. Lafferty, who holds the place, is incapacitated by reason of a broken arm, so Mr. Hanback turned himself loose on his substitute by mumbling and jumbling his words so fast that even the committee could not understand him. The stenographer, however, equal to the emergency, took down his jargon and presented it in manuscript form to the gentleman from Kansas to the astonishment of all present.

A communication has been sent to the House showing that the amount of leaf tobacco imported from Amsterdam to the United States has increased in value from \$5,789 for the quarter ended September 30, 1883, to \$547,951 for the quarter ended June 30, 1885. This vast increase has taken place notwithstanding the "restrictive provisions" placed by the United States Government upon the dimensions of the leaf. Means have been found to evade the customs laws of the United States. This state of affairs has called for considerable correspondence between the State Department and the Government representative at The Hague. The Treasury Department has recently examined this question and adopted measures to prevent the good faith of the Government from being imposed upon by any international "nesting" process of packing.

XIX CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, April 23, 1886.

House of Representatives.

The House met at 11 o'clock in continuation of yesterday's session, and immediately went into Committee of the Whole (Mr. Wellborn in the chair) on the river and harbor appropriation bill. For an hour the bill was considered and some progress made, and at 4 o'clock the House adjourned, and the session of Friday was opened with prayer by the Chaplain.

The President's message upon the labor troubles having been read by the Clerk, Mr. Springer, of Illinois, moved its reference to the Committee on Labor, with instructions to that committee to report upon it by bill or otherwise on or before May 15th.

Memmond, of Georgia, thought that there was no reason to believe that

the committee would not act diligently and it was unusual to restrict a committee on such matters.

Mr. Butterworth, of Ohio, moved to refer the message to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Butterworth's motion was lost--yeas, 77; nays, 147.

There being thirty minutes' debate allowed under the rules, Mr. Butterworth secured the floor. The object of his motion to refer the message to the Committee of the Whole, he said, had been considered by some gentlemen as unwise because it could not be reached at an early day. Every gentleman here, he affected to believe, had the message presented a question of vast consequence to the country. It had been his purpose if his motion had prevailed to call an unanimous consent to fix an early day for the consideration of this question, with the hope and expectation that it might be fairly considered, not with a view to protracting elections in a better power, but with a view to the right solution of a great problem. Mr. Butterworth said Congress owed it to itself to take up the labor question and consider it carefully, and then refer the subject to an appropriate committee. If it were referred to a committee now he feared that a measure would be reported representing not the needs of the hour, but the political necessities of the coming campaign.

Mr. Randall, of Pennsylvania, confessed to a feeling of surprise at the heat with which the gentleman from Ohio had approached this subject. He desired to direct attention to the fact that the Constitution made it the duty of the President from time to time to communicate to Congress touching the state of the Union and recommending such measures as he should deem necessary and expedient. The President had not ventured a lay beyond that; and how was he met here? He was met with an assault on his motives. There was not one word against the proposition which he made. Not one intelligent man in the country but knew that the present condition of the labor of the country commanded the attention of Congress. It was easy to question men's motives. He had also supposed that the right to question the motives of a President had been given to Congress. He asked that the message should have due consideration and deliberation, and a remedy for the troubles conceived, if possible, and enacted into a law. He declared proudly that there was not a word in it that appeared in any particular to any party, or any sect, or any class of men in the United States. On the contrary, it appeared to Congress as a body of American citizens wishing for public welfare. (Applause.)

Mr. Weaver, of Iowa, was in favor of a motion to commit with instructions that the matter might be calmly considered. The gentleman from Ohio (Butterworth) said it could only receive deliberate and calm discussion in Committee of the Whole, but what example of calmness had the gentleman himself set? He had not suggested any remedy for the troubles. It was easy to find fault, to carp and criticize, but it required statesmanship and calm deliberation to meet the underlying causes of the present labor troubles.

Mr. Gibson, of West Virginia, regretted that the gentleman from Ohio should undertake to bring politics into the discussion of this question. The gentleman had charged the majority of the House with not bringing forward a proposition which would have any practical results on the labor troubles. The troubles the country was suffering from were the result of powers given by corrupt Congresses to great corporations under twenty years of Republican administration. It was a great stock, unjust charges levied by Congress, against which labor was rebelling. The gentleman on the other side ought not to assail this House because it could not bring about a remedy in a day, but ought rather to confess the crimes and sins of their twenty years of legislation.

Mr. O'Neill, of Missouri, said that the arbitration bill had been discussed by the House for six days. Not one word of partisan bias had been injected into the debate. It had passed by a four-fifths vote. It had been reported unanimously by the Senate committee. It had been endorsed by the press and by the intelligence of the country, and it rested with the gentleman from Ohio to take this pretext of meeting partisan bias to the question. The gentleman was like the man with one story--the gun story. If the conversation did not give him an opportunity of telling his story he would stamp his foot on the floor and say, "That sounds like a gun; and talking of guns--" The gentleman was so full of partisan bile that he could resist no temptation of making a speech.

Mr. Reed, of Maine, pressed his satisfaction with the vote he had cast for the arbitration bill. The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Randall), in undertaking to excuse the President for his message, was the only man who had accused him. Nobody on the Republican side had found any fault with the President or even complained of his message. The gentleman was like the man with one story--the gun story. If the conversation did not give him an opportunity of telling his story he would stamp his foot on the floor and say, "That sounds like a gun; and talking of guns--" The gentleman was so full of partisan bile that he could resist no temptation of making a speech.

Mr. McCreary, of Kentucky, was gratified with the President's message, regarding it as a wise and forcible document. The relations between labor and capital were not as harmonious as they should be, and the message looked toward a better harmony. He did not believe that the proper way to settle the difficulties between labor and capital was to use violence. He believed that arbitration was the better plan. Congress should recognize that labor had rights, but also that capital had rights, and it was the duty of Congress to cultivate harmony and pleasant relations between the two.

Mr. Springer, of Illinois, supported his motion, contending that the Committee on Labor was the proper committee to consider the message. He had moved the instructions because he desired to respond promptly to the recommendations of the President. The wise and thoughtful message of the President should be considered in a proper spirit. He opposed the motion to refer it to the committee of the Whole because it would be buried there.

Mr. Springer's motion was then agreed to.

Mr. Voorhees, of Washington Territory, rising to a question of privilege, offered the following resolution: Resolved, That the Committee on Rules be instructed to inquire whether the Hon. L. D. M. Wright, or any other member of the House who has availed himself of the privilege of admission to the floor under Rule 34, is interested as agent or attorney for any railroad or other corporation, or interested in any claim or bill pending before Congress, and report to the House the result of such inquiry, with such recommendations as may be necessary.

It had been an open secret, he said, that ever since the beginning of this Congress a powerful lobby, organized in the interest of various railroad

corporations, had invested capital, and that the rules of the House had been openly, repeatedly, and notoriously set at defiance by some members of that body. He protested against the continuance of such practices, saying that he did not intend to reflect upon Setts, but had inserted his name because he personally knew that Setts was attorney for the Northern Pacific Company.

Accepting the suggestions made by Messrs. Blount and Randall, Mr. Voorhees modified his resolution by omitting the name of Setts and by providing that the inquiry shall be carried on by a select committee of five members. As so modified the resolution was adopted.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar.

At 4:30 P. M. the committee rose, and at 4:40 the House took a recess until 7:30, the evening session to be for the consideration of pension bills.

The House at its evening session passed sixty pension bills, and at 10:35 o'clock adjourned.

The Blair Educational Bill. (By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, April 23.--The House Committee on Labor to-day heard Representative Reagan in opposition to the Blair educational bill. His principal objection was on constitutional grounds.

After Mr. Reagan's argument four or five members of the committee made set speeches, defining their own views on the subject. The speeches called for a prolonged and at times very animated discussion.

Representative Daniel, of Virginia, moved that the committee report as a substitute a bill to appropriate the proceeds arising from the sale of public lands during the next fiscal year.

After a session of two hours the committee adjourned without action. The Committee on Education did not obtain a quorum until a few minutes before the meeting of the House, and then adjourned until the third Friday in May, and consequently action on the Blair bill by that committee is deferred until that date.

Internal Revenue Collections. (By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, April 23.--The collections of internal revenue for the first nine months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1886, were as follows: From spirits, \$50,591,795; tobacco, \$20,156,918; fermented liquors, \$13,662,750; miscellaneous items, \$179,718--total, \$84,571,232; an increase of \$2,970,048 over the collections for the corresponding period of the last fiscal year. The increase was--spirits, \$820,219; tobacco, \$1,286,151; fermented liquors, \$193,807. The aggregate receipts for March, 1886, were \$19,825,678, greater than the receipts for March, 1885.

Opposition to Sunday Papers. (By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 23.--The Protestant clergymen of this city and State to the number of 182, chiefly Baptists and Methodists, have signed and published a declaration that the publication of Sunday papers is a hindrance to the proper observance of the Sabbath, and calling for the attention of all Christian people to the alleged detrimental tendencies of their publication and sale.

CLEVELAND, O., April 23.--The city ministers, headed by Bishop Biddell, of the Episcopal Church, are preparing to boycott Sunday papers. Confidential circulars have been issued to clergymen and all are urged to join the movement and denounce Sunday papers from their pulpits on May 24.

Confessed a Murderer. (By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

ARGENTA, April 23.--Piston Valente (the colored), who was arrested at Louisa, Va., and brought to Augusta, confessed to the murder of William Vales before the grand jury to-day. Vales was a watchman at the depot of the Augusta and Summerville railroad. Valente struck him on the head with a pick, saturated the body with oil, and fired the buildings. After avoiding arrest for eighteen months he was finally captured in Virginia. The confession drew deep indignation and fears were entertained that Valente would be lynched. The law will take its course. The object of the murder was robbery.

Double Execution in Arkansas. (By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

FORT SMITH, ARK., April 23.--James Watson and Joseph Jackson were executed here to-day for murders committed in the Indian Territory. Anticipating a respite, United States Marshal Carroll postponed the hour of execution until the afternoon. At 2 o'clock the prisoners were taken to the gallows and death warrants read. They were ironed, and after bidding their fellow-prisoners good-bye were taken to the scaffold at 3 o'clock. Before being hanged Jackson attempted to cut his throat with a bottle that one of the prisoners used as a flower-vase, but was prevented by the guards.

Attacked by a Maniac. (Special telegram to the Dispatch.)

FAVETTEVILLE, N. C., April 22.--This morning about 8 o'clock Deputy Sheriff O. K. Clark, of Hillsboro, aged thirty, was drowned April 19th by the overturning of a boat, was found this morning floating in the river near the place he disappeared. The bodies of the three men who were drowned on this occasion have all been recovered, that of Mr. F. H. Quimby being the last.

Through from Chicago to Newport's News. (By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

COLUMBUS, OHIO, April 23.--President Green, of the Columbus,ocking-Valley and Toledo railway, says in his report that arrangements have been made between the Chicago and Atlantic, Kanawha and Ohio and Chesapeake and Ohio for a through line from Chicago to Newport's News.

A Whole Family Drowned. (By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

CLEVELAND, O., April 23.--Deafness, O. Frank Hillman, aged thirty, went fishing in a boat with his wife and two little children in the Anglaise river. The boat capsized about thirty feet from the shore, and all the occupants were drowned. The bodies have been recovered.

Business Failures. (By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

NEW YORK, April 23.--The business failures occurring throughout the country in the last week number for the United States 169; Canada 25--total 194, against 182 last week, and 215 the week previous.

THE INVESTIGATION.

FOURTH DAY'S SESSION OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

General Secretary of the Knights Examined--Powderly and McDowell Recalled--The Committee Going West.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 23.--The fourth day's session of the House select committee on the labor difficulties in the Southwest opened at 11 A. M., with the examination of Frederick S. Turner, the general secretary and treasurer of the Knights of Labor. Lawyer Swayne was again present to watch the proceedings in the interest of the railroad companies. Superintendent Somerville, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, who yesterday accompanied Mr. Gould, was also present. Representative Warner, of Ohio, was introduced to and had a long conversation with Messrs. McDowell and Turner. The latter is a short, stout, rather youthful-looking man of forty. He described himself as a resident of Philadelphia and as secretary and general treasurer of the Knights of Labor. He had worked at that business since 1876. He was now in the grocery business. He had taken part in the attempt to arrive at a settlement, and was present at Powderly's interview with Gould. The stenographic report of that interview was substantially correct. There was a general talk about the arbitration, and all seemed pleased with the subject.

It was thought to be the proper way of settling the disputes. In reply to Mr. Parker he stated that there were 121 district assemblies of Knights of Labor in the United States, with about 6,000 local assemblies. In these local assemblies there were from 100 to 200 members. The Knights of Labor had no political office and did not seek to influence legislation. He had known of no such movement on their part.

Mr. Parker handed witness the petition in favor of the unlimited coinage of standard silver dollars, purporting to be signed by the mill local assemblies of the Knights of Labor.

Mr. Turner stated that he had never seen or heard of the petition before, but the organization did not deny the right of any assembly to petition Congress. It was not responsible, as a body, for the action of particular assemblies.

This movement in favor of unlimited coinage was not a general movement of the Knights. Mr. Buchanan, after examining the petition, stated that he thought the petition could be traced to sources outside of and unconnected with the Knights of Labor.

Mr. Turner went on, in reply to questions from Mr. Crain, to describe the interview he and his colleague, Mr. Bailey, had had with Mr. Hoxie in St. Louis. He said Hoxie's treatment of them was very discourteous; that he stated he would have no conversation with them as officers of the Knights of Labor, but would receive them as American citizens. They informed him that they did not desire to stand on their dignity and were willing to talk to him as private citizens; that all they wanted was to have the matter settled, peace restored, and the men sent back to work.

Mr. Crain: Was the strike over then?

Mr. Turner: None of our people were at work. The strike was not over.

Chairman: In your statement you used the word "order" in reference to men going back to work. I want to know whether the central power of your organization ordered men to work or not.

Mr. Turner: The general laws do not contemplate strikes.

Chairman: That is not the question. Mr. Turner (hesitatingly): Well, I do not understand that if we issued an order for the men to go to work they would refuse to do so, no matter who ordered them.

Mr. Crain: You have no power to order a strike, have you?

Mr. Turner: Yes. There is no law in our Constitution governing strikes. We do not believe in strikes.

Mr. Crain: Then what do you desire your power to order strikes?

Mr. Turner: We have not the power directly to order strikes, but we have the power to approve or disapprove of strikes.

Mr. Crain: Was this strike approved or disapproved?

Mr. Turner: We never knew anything about it until we received the telegram from Mr. Hopkins. It has been approved.

Mr. Crain: Then I suppose the power is vested in you to direct men to return to work?

Mr. Turner: Yes.

Going back to the interview with Hoxie, Mr. Turner quoted Hoxie as saying that their duty was to set Martin Irons. They replied that they did not believe it better to talk with him (Hoxie). Hoxie said that the company would not require more than 50 per cent. of its former force; that when the former strikers occurred the company had reduced the hours of labor and increased the number of men, but now it would reduce the number of men and increase the hours of work, because the general expenses of the railroad were the same whether the men worked long hours or short hours.

The stenographer's report of the interview with Hoxie was handed Mr. Crain, who proceeded to question Mr. Turner on the various points therein stated. The concluding question was: Mr. Crain: Do you mean to say that when Hoxie was seeming to utter his objection to two grounds--namely, that the company only wanted 50 per cent. of its former force, and that he wanted the right of selecting them even from the Knights of Labor--you really believed that the men were refused employment simply on the ground that they were Knights of Labor?

Mr. Turner: I mean that.

Mr. Crain: Is the strike over now?

Mr. Turner: I do not know. I have only the newspapers to go by. Our people are not at work.

Mr. Crain: Who ordered the strike?

Mr. Turner: District Assembly No. 101.

Mr. Crain: What officer was authorized to promulgate it?

Mr. Turner: The secretary of the district assembly--Martin Irons.

Being questioned on the subject of arbitration, Mr. Turner said he had read the President's message on that point to-day, and thoroughly agreed with it. He believed that there should be some fixed tribunal of arbitration; not one fixed on the spur of the moment. He thought he believed in arbitration, and would like to see arbitration compulsory.

Mr. Crain: Suppose the arbitrators reported that the Knights of Labor should go to work at a dollar a day, when they wanted a dollar and a half, are you willing as an American citizen to say that you would ask your fellow-members of the Knights of Labor to abide by that?

Mr. Crain: If I entered into an agreement to abide by arbitration, I would submit to the award.

Coming back to the subject of strikes Mr. Buchanan asked whether that subject was within the province of the Executive Board.

The witness replied that it was not. Mr. Buchanan: A strike is ordered by the District Assembly?

Mr. Turner: Yes.

Mr. Buchanan: When a strike is ordered what is the first action taken by the Executive Board?

Mr. Turner: It takes no action in the matter unless appealed to.

Mr. Buchanan: And do you then seek to investigate the right or wrong of the matter?

Mr. Turner: Yes.

Mr. Buchanan: You also seek to have the differences composed?

Mr. Turner: Yes.

Mr. Buchanan: If you do not succeed in having railroad agents and men who have to lend it a hand financially.

Mr. Turner: No.

Mr. McDowell was recalled, and made a statement (in the line of one of the suggestions yesterday) as to the order of having railroad agents and men who have to lend it a hand financially.

Mr. Buchanan: Do you ever direct financial assistance to a strike without first investigating its propriety?

Mr. Turner: No.

Mr. Buchanan: In other words, the President's criticism was of a bill not passed by the House.

Referring to the remark made yesterday by Mr. Hopkins as to the prominent character of the Knights of Labor having been seen around the brokers' offices, the most positive denial of all stock speculation were made by Powderly, McDowell, and Turner.

Theodore P. Rynder, of Centre county, Pa., made an appeal to the committee on behalf of the miners in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia, that the committee should have its powers enlarged to investigate the troubles in the mining regions.

The chairman said the committee would on its return ask to have its powers enlarged. He said they were in harmony with the President's message, except that it did not go far enough. There should be some power in the Government to prevent an interruption of the coal supply by quarrel of railroad owners and their employees.

The committee at 1:30 o'clock closed its sitting in Washington, and it was arranged that the members should leave this city for St. Louis Monday morning.

WAS IT SUICIDE?

A Grand Officer of Texas Pythians Shoots Himself in the Breast.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

TERRELL, TEX., April 23.--The Grand Lodge of Knights of Pythias has been in session here since Wednesday morning. At 9 o'clock yesterday morning, in a room in the Harris Hotel, Alexander A. Hoxie, a retired merchant and a prominent member of the lodge, the hall entering his breast with the left of his heart. There is much mystery surrounding the affair, and it is believed the shooting was accidental.

Abey is a prominent lawyer of Longview, and has occupied the highest offices in the Knights of Pythias order in Texas.

Joseph B. Clamans, who had just been elected Grand Master of the Excelsior, was in the room at the time. Clamans and Abey have been warm friends many years. Clamans says Abey met him yesterday morning and asked whether he could lend him (Abey) a good pistol, as his (Abey's) was out of order. Clamans said his pistol was in his valise in the hotel, and they repaired to the room.

While Clamans was getting the revolver from the valise Abey was sitting on the edge of the bed. Clamans was startled by a report of a pistol, and turning saw Abey gasping on the bed and his weapon on the floor.

For several years Abey has had a feud with S. A. Aren, clerk of Galveston county, a prominent Knight of Pythias, who is at the convention. The theory is that Abey, in view of the possibility of meeting Aren, desired to be well armed, and that he was examining his own weapon when it was discharged.

Abey is very low, and there is little chance of his surviving. Shortly after the shooting he sent for Aren, but what passed between them at the bedside is not known.

For a number of years Abey was editor of the Longview Democrat, retiring recently.

There are many believers in the suicide theory, but the motive for self-destruction is hidden.

Domestic Tragedy in New Orleans.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

NEW ORLEANS, April 23.--Early this morning Mrs. William E. Nessen was awakened by her husband, who told her that he could not live peacefully they had better die together. At the same time he drew a revolver. Mrs. Nessen caught his arm, but he fired the bullet passing through her wrist. Her thirteen-year-old son rushed in and grasped his father's arm, but a second shot took off the boy's finger and sent the bullet into the wife's breast, inflicting probably a fatal wound. Mrs. Nessen ran screaming from the house, but sank unconscious to the sidewalk. Her husband did not attempt to follow, but going to their room removed his false teeth and placed the muzzle of the revolver in his mouth, blew off the top of his head, dying almost instantly. He has frequently accused his wife of infidelity, and they had many quarrels in consequence. He leaves ten children, the result of three marriages. The youngest child is six months old. Nessen was sixty-two years of age; his wife forty.

Another Levee Broken.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

HEXTER, MISS., April 23.--Last night the levee at Hexter, sixteen miles south of here, broke on the Arkansas side. In a short time the channel had been worn away. There is no hope of closing the break while the river remains at the present depth. Thousands of acres are overflowed, and it is estimated that a million acres will be submerged. The inhabitants had expected the calamity for some time, and have moved their stock and retained from plantings, regular crops, so the actual damage will not be very great.

Lord Selborne also strongly attacks the land-purchase bill.

He asks, upon

LABOR TROUBLES.

The Chicago Switchmen.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

CHICAGO, April 23.--A meeting of the striking switchmen last night a number of reported switchmen were present and claimed that they were regular switchmen for the company, and that they were forced to come here or lose their places. They also said that twenty-five of them would not work any longer for the company. After some discussion with regard to the matter of forwarding freight consigned to the Lake Shore road, which is now held in various yards, a committee, consisting of Messrs. Callaghan, Stuart and Keegan, was appointed to wait on the general freight agents and request them to divert such shipments to the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago, the Baltimore and Ohio, the Chicago and Albany, Chicago and Grand Trunk, and "Nickel-Plate" roads.

OVERTURES FOR SETTLEMENT.

CHICAGO, April 23.--It is reported that the striking switchmen have made overtures for a settlement of the existing trouble. Several of their representatives are in consultation with the Lake Shore officials. Everything is quiet at the yards at this hour--11 A. M.

SWITCHMEN'S STRIKE ENDED.

CHICAGO, April 23.--The switchmen's strike on the Lake Shore road ended at 3 o'clock. A train was issued between 2 and 3 o'clock by Chairman Stahl directing the switchmen to report to the yardmaster in charge of the Forty-third street yard.

President John Newell, of the Lake Shore, has just said to a representative of the Associated Press: "We have lowered the wage go back at their own request without any stipulation whatever on our part. Eight non-union men return to work along with the union men formerly in our employ. The men brought here from other cities will not be put to work in our yards here."